

The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University
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Title: Cranks and Countershafts

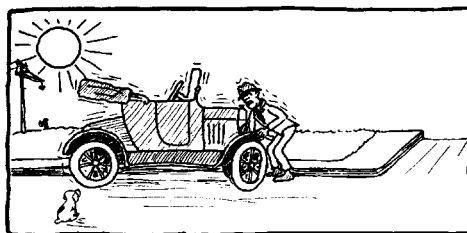
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CRANKS AND COUNTERSHAFTS

TURKISH RUGS

One of Irving Cobb's best stories concerns an appraiser who was sent to a home to appraise the contents. The entries in his book halted when the appraiser came to a table on which a full bottle of old Scotch stood. After a minute he continued the entries—

"One bottle of old Scotch whiskey partly full."

"One revolving Turkish rug."

ONE UNDER SUSPICION

One afternoon a stranger debarked from the train at a hustling town in the West and headed up the street. Finally he met a man who looked like a native.

"Pardon me," said the stranger, "are you a resident of this town?"

"Yes, sir," was the ready rejoinder of the other. "I have been here something like fifty years. What can I do for you?"

"I am looking for a criminal lawyer," replied the stranger. "Have you one here?"

"Well," said the native, reflectively, "we think we have, but we can't prove it on him."

—*Washington Herald.*

HE USED HIS "BEAN"

Motor Cop (after hard chase): "Why in h—— didn't you stop when I shouted back there?"

Driver (with only five bucks, but presence of mind): "I thought you just said, 'Good morning, Senator.'"

Cop: "Well, you see, Senator, I wanted to warn you about driving fast through the next township."

Isaac was dying, there was no doubt about it. He had been unconscious for hours. His family had anxiously gathered about his bedside. Suddenly his eyes opened. His wife leaned over him and said tenderly, "Ikey, do you know me?"

"Ach, what foolishments; sure I know you, you're Rebecca, mine wife."

"And these peoples, do you know them?"

"Ya, Jake, my son; Isidor, my nephew; Rosie, my daughter; Simeon, my son, and my brother David, and Joseph—Ach, Gott, who's tending store?"

—*Somebody Said This.*

STRUCK BLIND

She: "Do you remember when you were first struck by my beauty?"

He: "I think so. Wasn't it at the masked ball?"

Speaker: "Prohibition has set a lot of people thinking."

Stew: "Thash so?"

Speaker: "Has it set you to thinking?"

Stew: "Thinkin'? Gosh, no! I thought you said winkin'."—*Judge.*

COCKED!

Deadeye: "You say Joe got killed? How come?"

Dick: "Well, he stuck his head in that saloon and hollered 'Fire!'"

"Then what?"

"They did."—*Amherst Lord Jeff.*

TOOTH PRINTS

Mistress: "Mandy, how do you manage to get your pies so nicely crimped?"

Mandy: "Oh, tha's easy, ma'am. Ah just uses mah false teeth."

A horse trader once showed off a wind-broken nag to Howard Moran, with the idea of clinching a bargain. He trotted the plug up and down the road for Howard's benefit, and then exclaimed enthusiastically as he patted the animal's back: "Hasn't he a fine coat?"

"Oh, his coat's all right," replied Howard, "but I don't like his short pants."

Buck Buchanan (to court clerk): "I-ah-er-um."

Clerk (to assistant): "William, bring out one of those marriage license blanks."

Stranger (at gate): "Is your mother at home?"

Youngster: "Say, do you suppose I am mowing this back yard because the grass is long?"

Mrs. Prof: "My husband's so careless. His buttons are forever coming off."

Mrs. Prex (severely): "Perhaps they are not sewed on properly."

Mrs. Prof: "That's just it. He's so careless about his sewing."

An old Scotchman, noted for his convivial ways, was threatened with blindness.

"Now, McTavish," said the doctor, "it's like this: you'll have to stop drinking or lose your eyesight, and you must make the choice."

"Ay, weel, doctor," said McTavish, "I'm an auld mon noo, an' I was just thinkin': I hae seen aboot everything that's worth seein'!"

Teacher: "What do monkeys have that no other animal has?"

Jimmie: "Little monkeys."

AU NATURAL

"Sire, Lady Godiva rides without."

Sire (after glancing without) "Very tactfully put, my man."